

Message Text

SECRET

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47 S

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 SAM-01 SP-02

INR-07 INRE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00

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O R 281714Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8498

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

S E C R E T LONDON 01395

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, US, LE

SUBJECT: LEBANESE ARMS CONTROL

REF: (A) STATE 20511 (NOTAL); (B) LONDON 1339

1. STATE REFTEL CROSSED LONDON 1339 AND ARRIVED MORNING JANUARY 28, BY WHICH TIME FCO'S WHEELER WAS ALREADY IN LUXEMBOURG WITH HIS INSTRUCTIONS FOR OPENING OF CONFERENCE. PER STATE REFTEL WE INFORMED WHEELER'S CHIEF, URWICK, OF US POSITION THAT LAST WEEK'S EVENTS IN LEBANON NOW MAKE EA DECLARATION ON ARMS UNPROFITIOUS. URWICK REPLIED THIS PUT UK IN A SOMEWHAT AWKWARD POSITION SINCE WHEELER AS UK REP ABOUT TO PROPOSE A STATEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH WHAT UK HAD UNDERSTOOD WAS US POLICY AS WELL. HOWEVER, HE UNDERTOOK TO ATTEMPT TO REACH WHEELER IN LUXEMBOURG BY PHONE TO INFORM HIM OF US POSITION, AND NOTED THAT IN ANY CASE SOME OTHER EC MEMBERS ARE COOL TO

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SUGGESTION OF STATEMENT ON LIMITING ARMS FLOW. LATER IN

THE DAY URWICK INFORMED US HE HAD REACHED WHEELER WHO REPORTED OTHER EC MEMBERS STILL COOL IN ANY CASE. WE PLAN DEBRIEF WHEELER JANUARY 29.

2. COMMENT: AS WE HAVE REPORTED BEFORE, SINCE UK MADE DECISION TO REMAIN IN EC, BRITISH FOREIGN POLICY IN CASES IN WHICH THEY HAVE NOT DECIDED TO GO IT ALONE WILL INCREASINGLY BE MESHED WITH COMMON EC POLICY WHERE FEASIBLE. ON MIDDLE EASTERN MATTERS BRITISH TO A LARGE DEGREE UNDERTAKE THE HELPFUL ROLE OF "HONEST BROKER" BETWEEN US AND OTHER EC MEMBERS. IN THIS CASE, ONCE WE HAD PROPOSED CONSIDERATION OF LEBANESE ARMS CONTROL TO SEVERAL EC MEMBERS, BRITISH FELT IT NATURAL TO RAISE CONSIDERATIONS OF IT IN EC FORA, UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE RECOMMEND THAT TELS ON THIS SUBJECT SHOULD BE REPEATED TO USEC BRUSSELS AND TO PRESENT SEAT OF EC PRESIDENCY, LUXEMBOURG.

SPIERS

NOTE BY OC/T: DISTRIBUTION COORDINATED WITH MR. HOGANSON, S/S-O.

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, NEGOTIATIONS, ARMS SHIPMENTS, MUNITIONS CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LONDON01395
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760032-0858
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760114/aaaaalvu.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 20511
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 MAR 2004 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <28 JUL 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LEBANESE ARMS CONTROL
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, US, LE, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006